

This testimony wasn't written to turn "Hard Soldiers" into "Soft Soldiers." It was written to say, "Be a Positive Soldier, or don't be a Soldier at all!!!"

**I am still a Soldier: a Soldier for Allah, (God In Arabic.)
I am still a Godfather - a "GOD" believing man and a
founding "FATHER" of a Muslim Movement.....**

"ALL praise is due to Allah Almighty"....

"Ruben"

NOTE: This testimony was written by Ruben Saldana, for a Youth Crime Prevention Program he has developed. This program has not been fully established yet due to a lack of public grants and/or donations needed to fund the program. If you have any comments, questions or concerns, please contact Ruben at the following address:

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END OF GANGBANGING (E. O. G)

I was born in Brooklyn, raised in Miami, lived many places among many races. In Naranja (Down South Miami) 1989, I joined "IN/P" (International Posse,) Miami's biggest and most notorious street gang, in the late 80's and 90's. I was Chapter One's (Homestead) Bobby IN/P Godfather. I was called "Master Splinter" because of my rat tail and Martial Arts skills. By 1994, I became the IN/P Godfather and was known as "Godfather Splinter" and called "Miami IN/P Ruben" in Orlando. In 1997, I was crowned "Prince of IN/P," the highest retirement rank, and was called "Prince Ru." My name changed and gained more respect with the more violence (stupidity) I did.

I gave ten years of my love, life and loyalty to IN/P. I personally met about 3,000 IN/P's and right now, can only count three others who have been 100% IN/P active for as long or longer, than I have. I planted my Blue and White IN/P Flogs everywhere I landed. I managed to plant Flogs in cities and prisons I've never even seen to this day. I gangbanged with and against America's biggest and hardest street gangs, including Folk Nation, People Nation, Zulu Nation, Crips, Bloods, Sureños and Nartenous. I have challenged the power of a few Mafias and Kingpins.

I've been jumped a lot and did a lot of jumping, all weapons included. I've shot and been shot at. My house was shot up three times in one month. I've been beaten by the police, just for being in IN/P. I've been arrested for many things from petty theft, to

spray painting on cop cars, to murder. I've been to Florida's so-called notorious prisons, including Brevard, (A.K.A. the Gladiator School,) Lake Butler (A.K.A. the Stomp UM Camp,) Martin (A.K.A. the Booty Bandit Capitol of the World,) U.C.I. (A.K.A. Raifard or the Rock) etc. I started my prison trips at age 16.

I don't mention the above to glorify myself as an ex-gangster. I mention it to show troubled youth and those wanting to climb the ranks of "Gangster Paradise" that everything you wanna be, "**I WAS!**" The concept is simple, you ain't gotta take an example from me, just look at where the founding father of the gang you admire or represent is at! Keep playing "follow the leader" and you'll see where you're going.

There was a lot of so-called gangsters I used to admire, but once you go to prison and realize how much of a nobody (or equal) everybody is, you start admiring better things in life - like your family. Most likely, your gang is not gonna support you like your family will - and that's just "if" the gang provides any help at all! I'm not gonna go into detail about prison life. I'll let you experience it for yourself. Some love it, some hate it and some deal with it.

Right now, I'm in prison for the murder of two Old School Homeboys who were IN/P's. Lord knows my innocence, but my point is that I can possibly spend the rest of my life in prison for a reputation I ignorantly built up myself, in the past. The same "IN/P" I served for ten years, is the same "IN/P" that got me locked up. It's the same "IN/P" that testified against me and the same "IN/P" that I basically broke up because these so-called gangsters couldn't keep a good establishment without me.

All I wanted to do was help IN/P's strive for better and more positive things in life but just my association with "hard heads" cost me my life - in prison! I should have taken examples from King Hoover and King Blood - two Ex-gangsters who became positive leaders of two of America's biggest and strongest street and prison gangs, the Gangster Disciples and the Latin Kings. King Hoover established many beneficial social, educational and political programs for many troubled youth. He changed the Gangster Disciples into a Growth and Development organization. Last I "heard," his parole was denied on a 200 year prison sentence and he also got hit with 50 Fed charges. King Blood established a righteous and beneficial version of the Latin Kings. Last I "heard" about him, he got two life sentences in solitary confinement and got hit with 80 Fed charges.

In my eyes, the visions and concepts of these two leaders could have been beneficial to thousands of troubled youth, but the violent "hard heads" crushed those visions. From the examples of King Hoover, King Blood and myself, one should learn that you can't turn a negatively founded street gang into something positive. You will **fall** or thousands will **fall!** There is nothing wrong with brotherhood, but find brotherhood in something righteous and you'll stand for a better cause.

True enough, I had many good times gangbanging. The rush and respect ran high. Gangbanging, Miami style, had no **good** causes, but had many **bad** effects. For every good time, there were ten bad times. By about the time your smiles start catching up to your frowns, you're either locked up or dead!